

The few omissions which can be pointed out only emphasize the general completeness of the volume. It would, however, take very little space, and it would add to the interest and value of the manual to mention heterochromic cyclitis, the conjunctivo-keratitis associated with molluscum contagiosum, and the association of dislocated lenses with the general condition of arachnoidecty. The reviewer thinks it would also be of interest value to the student and general practitioner to know that the irritation set up in some persons by atropine is an allergic reaction, the antigen being a salt of atropine and a protein present in the tears.

The production and format of the book is unchanged and is one in which all concerned are to be congratulated, and there must be few of those for whom the book was written who would not derive both profit and pleasure from its perusal.

J. A. C.

HYGIENE. Second Edition. By J. R. Currie, M.A., M.D., LL.D., D.P.H., F.R.C.P., and A. G. Mearns, B.Sc., M.D., B.Sc.(Public Health), D.P.H., F.R.S.Edin. Pp. 432. 89 figures. Price 21s. E. & S. Livingstone, Edinburgh. 1945.

THIS manual of Public Health is divided into twenty-three sections dealing fully with the personal and environmental aspects of the subject. In the arrangement of the material priority has been given to the social side of Hygiene. In a postscript a masterly summary is given of White Papers dealing with Design of Dwellings, Social Medicine and Social Insurance. The book is up to date and the information contained in it is thoroughly reliable and will be of immense service to students of medicine, medical officers, practitioners of medicine, sanitary inspectors, social workers and others interested in the subject.

It is an admirable textbook for medical students and the D.P.H. candidate will find it most helpful. Teachers of hygiene will find it invaluable. The authors have a sound knowledge not only of the sciences on which hygiene rests, but also have had practical experience of public health administration. In a book of this size it has been necessary to condense an enormous number of facts, but the condensation has been carried out with such skill that the interest of the reader does not flag. The work is well written, the illustrations are most attractive, and the publishers are to be congratulated on the beautiful paper on which it is printed and on its general format. I can recommend it enthusiastically to medical students and practitioners alike as a safe guide in the changing field of medicine to-day, when stress is being laid on the preventive side. W. J. W.

TEXTBOOK OF ANÆSTHETICS. By R. J. Minnitt, M.D., D.A., and John Gillies, M.B., Ch.B., D.A. Sixth Edition. Pp. 487. Illustrated. 25s., plus 9d. postage. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone.

IN the twenty-five years which have elapsed since the first publication of this textbook—then entitled a “handbook”—the art of anæsthesia has made such striking advances that it may now be considered to constitute something more of a science than an art.

The present edition, in which the book has undergone very extensive revision, emanates as a joint effort from the wide experience and considerable learning of two of our most distinguished anæsthetists. The high standard of the work has been achieved only through the broad perception of medicine as a whole possessed by both authors.

This edition incorporates new chapters on trichlorethylene, endotracheal anæsthesia, intravenous anæsthesia, and anæsthesia for dentistry. The physiology of anæsthesia has been dealt with and elaborated upon in succinct and clear terms, and to a degree not previously attempted in any British textbook on anæsthesia. The chapters on regional and spinal anæsthesia, while quickly covering wide fields, are rather too brief to be of real value to the serious student, and lack that detail in direction which is so essential for the achievement of success in these branches of the subject; though one realises that it would be quite impossible—in a textbook of this size—to adequately cover every aspect of so wide a discussion.

This book can, with confidence, be recommended to all interested in, or in any way connected with, the realm of anæsthesia. For those taking up the speciality it offers a sound basis for